



MEDFIELD

Norfolk County



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NARRATIVE

Narrative

The Town of Medfield is an historic suburban town on an important crossing point of the Charles River valley leading to the western interior of the state. Located on a rugged upland watershed area and the adjacent river meadow, Medfield was the site of major native settlements and of early European settlements, although the latter were almost completely destroyed during the King Philip wars.

The early economic base of the community was agriculture and cattle raising with some dairying and orchards, and the community gradually evolved from a front line frontier town to a moderately prosperous rural town with little development outside of farming and grazing. In the 19th century, straw hat making became a significant business in town, recording over \$1 million worth of goods for one manufacturer alone in 1875. The Medfield State Mental Hospital was developed in the 1890's, providing another source of jobs for an increasing population.

Presently, the town has a major suburban population and is very proud of its restored and preserved 18th and 19th century buildings.

(Seal supplied by community. Narrative based on information provided by the Massachusetts Historical Commission)



GEOGRAPHY

Location

Eastern Massachusetts, bordered by Millis on the west, Sherborn on the northwest, Dover on the north and northeast, Walpole on the east and southeast, and Norfolk on the south. Medfield is 18 miles northwest of Brockton; 19 miles southwest of Boston; 29 miles north of Providence, Rhode Island; and 208 miles from New York City.

Total Area: 14.60 sq. miles

Land Area: 14.51 sq. miles

Population: 10,531

Density: 726 per sq. mile

Climate

(National Climatic Data Center)

(West Medway Station)

Normal temperature in January.....23.9°F

Normal temperature in July.....70.8°F

Normal annual precipitation.....46.6"

U.S.G.S. Topographical Plates

Medfield

Regional Planning Agency

Metropolitan Area Planning Council

Metropolitan Statistical Area

(1993 Definition)

Boston



GOVERNMENT

Municipal Offices

Main Number: (508) 359-8505

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Form of Government

Board of Selectmen

Town Administrator

Open Town Meeting

Year Incorporated

As a town: 1651

Registered Voters (Secretary of State 1994)

	Number	%	
Total Registered	6,532		
Democrats	1,168	17.9	%
Republicans	1,175	18.0	%
Other parties	5	0.1	%
Unenrolled Voters	4,184	64.1	%

Legislators

[Senators and Representatives by City and Town](#)



DEMOGRAPHICS

Table DP-1. Profile of General Demographic Characteristics: 2000

Geographic Area: Medfield town, Norfolk County, Massachusetts

[For information on confidentiality protection, nonsampling error, and definitions, see text]

Subject	Number	Percent	Subject	Number	Percent
Total population.....	12,273	100.0	HISPANIC OR LATINO AND RACE		
SEX AND AGE			Total population.....	12,273	100.0
Male.....	6,031	49.1	Hispanic or Latino (of any race).....	110	0.9
Female.....	6,242	50.9	Mexican.....	12	0.1
Under 5 years.....	1,042	8.5	Puerto Rican.....	22	0.2
5 to 9 years.....	1,272	10.4	Cuban.....	15	0.1
10 to 14 years.....	1,226	10.0	Other Hispanic or Latino.....	61	0.5
15 to 19 years.....	760	6.2	Not Hispanic or Latino.....	12,163	99.1
20 to 24 years.....	256	2.1	White alone.....	11,794	96.1
25 to 34 years.....	942	7.7	RELATIONSHIP		
35 to 44 years.....	2,544	20.7	Total population.....	12,273	100.0
45 to 54 years.....	2,028	16.5	In households.....	12,098	98.6
55 to 59 years.....	673	5.5	Householder.....	4,002	32.6
60 to 64 years.....	393	3.2	Spouse.....	2,954	24.1
65 to 74 years.....	641	5.2	Child.....	4,699	38.3
75 to 84 years.....	379	3.1	Own child under 18 years.....	4,061	33.1
85 years and over.....	117	1.0	Other relatives.....	232	1.9
Median age (years).....	38.0	(X)	Under 18 years.....	52	0.4
18 years and over.....	8,151	66.4	Nonrelatives.....	211	1.7
Male.....	3,915	31.9	Unmarried partner.....	87	0.7
Female.....	4,236	34.5	In group quarters.....	175	1.4
21 years and over.....	7,924	64.6	Institutionalized population.....	175	1.4
62 years and over.....	1,360	11.1	Noninstitutionalized population.....	-	-
65 years and over.....	1,137	9.3	HOUSEHOLD BY TYPE		
Male.....	482	3.9	Total households.....	4,002	100.0
Female.....	655	5.3	Family households (families).....	3,268	81.7
RACE			With own children under 18 years.....	2,001	50.0
One race.....	12,190	99.3	Married-couple family.....	2,954	73.8
White.....	11,878	96.8	With own children under 18 years.....	1,834	45.8
Black or African American.....	62	0.5	Female householder, no husband present.....	257	6.4
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	5	-	With own children under 18 years.....	143	3.6
Asian.....	216	1.8	Nonfamily households.....	734	18.3
Asian Indian.....	41	0.3	Householder living alone.....	619	15.5
Chinese.....	120	1.0	Householder 65 years and over.....	265	6.6
Filipino.....	14	0.1	Households with individuals under 18 years.....	2,039	50.9
Japanese.....	9	0.1	Households with individuals 65 years and over.....	793	19.8
Korean.....	18	0.1	Average household size.....	3.02	(X)
Vietnamese.....	6	-	Average family size.....	3.41	(X)
Other Asian ¹	8	0.1	HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	1	-	Total housing units.....	4,048	100.0
Native Hawaiian.....	1	-	Occupied housing units.....	4,002	98.9
Guamanian or Chamorro.....	-	-	Vacant housing units.....	46	1.1
Samoan.....	-	-	For seasonal, recreational, or		
Other Pacific Islander ²	-	-	occasional use.....	10	0.2
Some other race.....	28	0.2	Homeowner vacancy rate (percent).....	0.2	(X)
Two or more races.....	83	0.7	Rental vacancy rate (percent).....	2.1	(X)
Race alone or in combination with one			HOUSING TENURE		
or more other races: ³			Occupied housing units.....	4,002	100.0
White.....	11,953	97.4	Owner-occupied housing units.....	3,431	85.7
Black or African American.....	90	0.7	Renter-occupied housing units.....	571	14.3
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	13	0.1	Average household size of owner-occupied units.....	3.20	(X)
Asian.....	251	2.0	Average household size of renter-occupied units.....	1.96	(X)
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	5	-			
Some other race.....	47	0.4			

- Represents zero or rounds to zero. (X) Not applicable.

¹ Other Asian alone, or two or more Asian categories.

² Other Pacific Islander alone, or two or more Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander categories.

³ In combination with one or more of the other races listed. The six numbers may add to more than the total population and the six percentages may add to more than 100 percent because individuals may report more than one race.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.



HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

Home Sales (Banker & Tradesman) -

[Town Stats - Free market Statistics](#)

Subsidized Housing Units (DHCD 1998)

[DHCD Subsidized Housing Inventory](#)

Subsidized Housing Units: The number of housing units which count toward the municipality's 10% goal for low- and moderate-income housing. It includes both subsidized affordable units and market rate units in certain eligible subsidized developments.

Public Housing Units (DHCD 1999)

Conventional State:	60
Conventional Federal:	0

Rental Assistance(DHCD 1999)

State (MRVP:	26
Federal (Section 8):	0



TRANSPORTATION

TRANSPORTATION AND ACCESS

Medfield is situated in the Greater Boston Area, which has excellent rail, air, and highway facilities. State Route 128 and Interstate Route 495 divide the region into inner and outer zones, which are connected by numerous "spokes" providing direct access to the airport, port, and intermodal facilities of Boston.

Major Highways

Principal highways are State Route 109, which runs between State Route 128 and Interstate Route 495, and State Route 27.

Rail

Commuter rail service to Back Bay Station, and South Station, Boston, is available on the Forge Park-495 Line from Walpole Station. Travel time to BBS: 29-41 min.; 377 MBTA parking spaces. The Bay Colony Railroad and Conrail provide freight rail service and interchange traffic in Medfield. Contact number for the Bay Colony: (617) 380-3556; contact number for Conrail: (617) 783-6222

Bus

Medfield is a member of the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA). Brush Hill Transportation provides rush hour service to Boston M-F.

Other

The Norwood Memorial Airport, a Reliever (RL) facility, is easily accessible. It has 2 asphalt runways 4,001'x 150' and 4,007'x 150'. Instrument approaches available: Non-precision.



CULTURE AND RECREATION

LIBRARIES

[Board of Library Commissioners On-line Library Catalog](#)

MUSEUMS

(American Association of Museums)

None

RECREATION

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Recreational Facilities (Recreational sites and activities)

[Department of Environmental Management Recreation Section](#)



MISCELLANEOUS

HEALTH FACILITIES

(Dept. of Public Health 1992)

Hospitals

None

Long Term Care

Med-vale Nursing Home

Hospices

None

Rest Homes

None

UTILITIES

[Telephone Numbers for Public Utilities](#)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Department of Housing and Community Development would like to thank the many government agencies noted as having provided information for the community profiles. In addition to these agencies, the Regional Transit Authorities assisted with the transportation component of the profiles. We gratefully acknowledge the assistance of many city and town officials, which enabled us to include information obtainable only at the local level. DHCD would also like to thank the following individuals for providing special help: Leslie A. Kirwan, Deputy Commissioner, Division of Local Services, Department of Revenue; Richard Shibley, Deputy Secretary of State; Bob Beattie of the Department of Public Health; Charles W. Clifford from the Martha's Vineyard Commission; Dennis Coffey of the Executive Office of Transportation and Construction; Donna Fletcher and Christian Jacqz of the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs; James Griffin from the MBTA; Karen Loh from Banker & Tradesman; Todd Maio from the Department of Welfare; Geoffrey Morton from the Election Division of the Secretary of State's Office; Stephen R. Muench of the Massachusetts Aeronautics Commission; Rol Murrow of the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association; Mary Ann Neary and Emmanuelle Fletcher, reference librarians at the State House Library; Jeff Nellhaus from the Department of Education; and George Sanborn, reference librarian at the State Transportation Library.

NOTE: The COMMUNITY PROFILE draws information from a diversity of sources. The main source of information is listed under each section. In some instances comments submitted by the municipality were incorporated to correct and/or enhance the information obtained from the main source. However, no changes were made to those data bases which must be consistent throughout the state. DHCD has made efforts to ensure the accuracy of all data in the COMMUNITY PROFILES, but cannot take responsibility for any consequences arising from the use of the information contained in this document.